



CARE International in Uganda

Capacity Statement, January 2017

1. CARE INTERNATIONAL GLOBALLY: GENERAL OVERVIEW

Founded in 1945, CARE (Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere) is a leading, global humanitarian and development organization, dedicated to defending dignity and eradicating poverty. Today, CARE operates in more than 90 countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Europe. Guided by the aspirations of local communities around the world, CARE facilitates lasting change by strengthening the capacity of communities and households through economic opportunities, delivering relief in emergencies, influencing policy decisions at all levels and addressing discrimination. In order to achieve its mission, local capacity building and inter-agency partnerships are key components of CARE's work. CARE's particular focus is on empowering poor and marginalized people, especially women and girls, to take action on issues affecting their lives at all levels and to build knowledge for global change. In our work, we are specifically addressing the following strategic themes: food and nutrition security, sustainable agriculture and natural resource management, climate change adaptation and resilience, access to financial services, sexual and reproductive health, global policy engagement on key issues driving poverty, gender and women's and girls' empowerment.

2. CARE INTERNATIONAL IN UGANDA

2.1 GENERAL OVERVIEW

CARE International in Uganda (CARE Uganda) Basic Data	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established: 1969 Number of staff: 59 Office locations: Kampala, Gulu and Arua Program locations: 62 districts Partner locations: All over the country Country Director: Delphine Pinault Asst. Country Director: Delphine Norah Mugisha Total program value: USD 7.2 million for FY period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct beneficiaries: 705,000 Current donors: NORAD, DANIDA, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Barclays Bank, Austrian Development Agency, Gates Foundation, UNFPA, Government of Uganda, Czech Republic, DFID Recent past donors: USAID, Buffet Foundation, European Union.

Established in 1969, CARE Uganda targets the most vulnerable communities, with a special focus on poor women and girls, who are the most at risk of rights' abuse and exploitation. Reaching 705,000 direct beneficiaries to date, our three programs, across 62 districts, consistently address the key drivers of poverty and social injustice in Uganda, namely prevailing gender inequality, widespread corruption and poor governance, and lastly the growing threat of climate change. The poorest women and girls often find themselves at the nexus of these three drivers in a vicious circle of poverty. These drivers are addressed by empowering women and girls to gain the skills and confidence needed for their development by facilitating inclusive and participatory governance at various levels with attention to women's participation, through policy and evidence-based advocacy and by building communities' capacity to adapt to climate change and strengthen their resilience with a deliberate nutrition sensitive approach. Thanks to its dual long-term development as well as humanitarian mandate, CARE is able to support women and girls throughout the aid continuum. In addition to tackling the underlying drivers of poverty, each program focuses on a particular theme: the Northern Uganda Women Empowerment Program (NUWEP) has a conflict component that addresses conflicts at community and family level, including Gender Based Violence (GBV). The Women Empowerment in Natural Resources Governance (WENG) program is focused on ensuring women's and girls' voices are included in the governance of the natural resources they depend upon for their survival. The Women and Youth Financial Inclusion Program (WAYFIP) builds on CARE's well known Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA) as a platform to facilitate access to financial services, including linking groups and individuals to formal banks through innovative and affordable products.

2.2 PARTNERSHIP APPROACH: *Building Local Capacity and Ownership*

The rationale for working with partners is multi-faceted. In line with its programming principles, CARE Uganda designs, implements and monitors its work in partnership with other organizations and has a Partnership Strategy, field guidelines and associated sub-grant manuals that guide this process. The partners include community based organizations (CBOs), national and international NGOs, the private sector, academic and research institutions, the government (both central and local), and the media. The main reasons for moving towards partnership are:

- Building institutional capacity among local and national organizations so that they can continue the development work effectively after CARE programs have ended;
- Learning from the local knowledge of the partner organizations;
- Building on the existing access and proximity of the local partners to the communities
- Collaborating on relevant national and local issues for influencing governance and policy issues; and
- Increasing the legitimacy of our work and building long-term ownership over issues we address.

So far, CARE Uganda has worked with over 100 NGO / CBO partners, several private sector organizations including banks, agro-traders, various ministries and departments of the Government of Uganda.

2.3 ORGANIZATIONAL TRACK RECORD

GENERAL MANAGEMENT CAPACITY:

During the last five fiscal years, CARE International in Uganda has been managing a diverse portfolio of grants worth an average of \$8 million annually. Despite having many different donors with different rules and regulations, specific conditions and expectations, we have successfully implemented all our grants both from a programmatic impact perspective as well as from a financial management and compliance perspective. Most of our donors require annual external audits. We have never had any material findings, including in the two OMB-A133 audits of our USAID grants conducted in FY2015 and FY2016. We have the needed program support (in Human Resources, finance, internal audit and risk management, administration, procurement, grants and sub grants management) and in program quality (design, Monitoring & Evaluation, Knowledge Management and Impact Measurement) to ensure quality and timely implementation of our grants. We have staff with the needed technical capacity and also ensure continuous learning opportunities for our staff and partners. In the last 12 months for instance, at least 10 staff participated in various trainings and learning events (on gender transformation, nutrition, pro-poor and pro-women value chain approaches, Social Analysis and Action, Engaging Men and Boys, Safety and Security, various aspects of financial management and our financial system, sub grants management, etc.). We are supported and managed by a Deputy Managing Regional Director who supervises Country Directors in the four Great Lakes Countries of DRC, Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda and reports to a Regional Director based in Nairobi. We receive regular monitoring and oversight visits from our colleagues in the regional office in Nairobi and headquarters in the US (auditors, finance staff, safety and security staff, program quality staff) as well as from our various CARE International Member Partners in the various countries that support us (e.g. Austria, Denmark, Norway, UK, etc.).

WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT AND ENGAGING MEN:

Over the years, CARE Uganda has evolved its Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) model that has yielded many impressive results, particularly in deliberately working with men on their behaviors to become champions of gender equality.

"No one turns a blind eye to wife beating and there are available mechanisms for redress in case there is misunderstanding"

—Chief Lugai Pajule 2013 during the midterm review for Male Engage

One of the households attached to a Role Model Man



CARE's experience has taught us that empowered women cannot fully enjoy the benefits from their increased mobility, self-confidence and self-esteem if their male partners (fathers, sexual partners, husbands, brothers, etc.) in their homes and in the community continue to demonstrate disrespectful and sometimes violent behaviors vis-à-vis women and girls. CARE has therefore developed the Role Model Man approach in 2010, which has grown increasingly important in all of our projects. This has led to over 642 trained role model men working with over 6,420 households across the districts of Gulu, Amuru, Nwoya, Pader, Kitgum, Agago, Lanwo and Omoro.

The Women's Empowerment Program Phase III (funded by the Austrian Development Agency, 861,402.32 USD) resulted in over 96% of women reporting strong social networks, inclusion and involvement (versus 18.4% at baseline). In addition, 94.4% of women reported owning cash savings and deciding how to use their savings (versus 53% at baseline). Further, at end line, 87.1% of surveyed men disagreed that a woman's role is to take care of the house and prepare meals for her family and 53.8% agreed that major decisions such as buying land or other assets is not only a man's decision.

The role model men's main activity is to reach out to fellow men in previously identified households with issues of domestic violence, women lacking freedom and not having decision-making power, extreme poverty and food and nutrition insecurity. Since 2010, over 32,000 men have been reached by the role model men as part of the broader community outreach approach. Increased incomes, increased self-respect and increased confidence to speak in public are only some of the positive outcomes of this approach.

FINANCIAL INCLUSION:

CARE is a leader on financial inclusion for poor women and girls in Uganda. In 1998, CARE Uganda established its first Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) and has since trained and mentored over 28,971 groups across all regions of Uganda. The current VSLA membership is 809,367 (of which 568,059 are female) and the cumulative savings for all active VSLA groups is greater than 52 Billion Ugandan Shillings.¹ The model's sustainability is evidenced by the 95% group continuation rate despite CARE Uganda's active involvement being limited to between 12 to 24 months. Additionally, CARE has developed a youth-pathways apprenticeship approach, through which more than 2,625 youths have been trained in CARE's financial inclusion model throughout all parts of eastern and western Uganda.

To respond to the needs for bigger loans emerging from successful VSLAs after some time, since 2011, CARE Uganda has entered into partnerships with various commercial banks (e.g. Barclays, Postbank) and Mobile Network Operators (MNOs, e.g. MTN, Airtel) to facilitate access to formal financial products for VSLA members. CARE's Bank Linkages model and digitalized financial products (Electronic keys, digitalized E-wallets, digital ledger-links) increase the range of financial products and services available to VSLA members (e.g. zero-cost VSLA groups' savings accounts, access to credit facilities and loans at affordable rates, overdrafts, etc.), strengthen their financial security (reduce risk of theft of cash box, supports growing entrepreneurial aspirations of members) and address problems of transactional interface and distance to financial access points.

VSLAs are a savings-led community-based microfinance methodology that mobilizes individuals into savings groups allowing them to save and borrow small amounts at a fair rate of interest agreed upon by group members. Through the formation of VSLA groups, CARE Uganda has seen an increase in women reported to be making joint decisions on financial allocation with their spouses, indicating that women are gaining more control over financial resource but also more broadly productive assets, such as land, livestock, agricultural production, etc. CARE Uganda has been able to advance its VSLA work (including its micro-insurance model, bank linkages, and a youths pathways approach) with funding from DFID, Barclays, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Government of Uganda / IFAD funds, USAID, just to name a few.

Across Uganda, CARE has so far linked 53 VSLAs using digitalized services and 1,450 VSLAs using ordinary methods. The model and products are jointly developed with our banking and MNO partners and consumer protection is at the heart of our research and product development efforts. Our reputation and experience in financial inclusion for the poor has earned us the Chair of the Self Help Group Committee that is hosted by the Ministry of Finance. This role has made it possible to influence financial inclusion policies and to develop guidelines to uphold minimum customer protection and quality standards through for example the "Linking for Change Savings Charter" document that guides linkage processes.

In partnership with Jubilee Insurance and Integrated Community Based Initiative (ICOB) and since 2009, CARE has piloted micro insurance schemes that have been linked to VSLAs. Thus far the schemes have focussed on health and funeral insurance. Currently, over 2,000 VSLA members are enrolled in such a scheme.

MARKET ORIENTED CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE, DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND BUILDING RESILIENCE

While CARE Uganda has a long history in the agriculture and natural resources governance sector in Uganda, the last five years have seen increased deliberate attention to addressing the effects of climate change by working both at community level on effective adaptation strategies for small holder farmers (with a focus on women) and at the national level on key policy issues.

At community level, CARE has implemented various initiatives that promoted conservation agriculture principles as the basis for adaptation (with the main objective of restoring soil health), together with the promotion of more disease and drought resistant and more nutritious crops. CARE has also promoted a mixed intercropping system that has reduced the number of months without food while contributing to increased household dietary diversity. Some of the flagship initiatives that implemented these approaches include:

The **Partners for Resilience Climate Proof Disaster Risk Reduction Phase I** project funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (614,328.16 EUR) trained 65 model farmers in conservation agriculture and climate change adaptation, who in turn trained a total of 2,560 farmers (including 1,000 women farmers). The initiative strengthened farmers' resilience and increased their adaptation capacity through acquisition of new knowledge which they subsequently adopted and used in their own fields. At least 75% of the Otuke community farmers have turned to a more sustainable agro-forestry system.

¹ This figure may not include all graduated VSLA groups

- The H.G. Buffet funded **Global Water Initiative for East Africa (GWI-EA) – for Agriculture** project ran between 2012 and 2015 (USD 1,336,645) and reached 2,500 direct and 12,000 indirect participants, of whom 7,000 women through farmers' *Learning and Practice Alliances* (LPAs) that made a valuable contribution to addressing water for agriculture issues within this district. While promoting conservation agriculture practices, this initiative concentrated primarily on water harvesting and water management practices. A total of 160 Champion Farmers who supported 241 other farmers promoted water smart agriculture techniques in Otuke districts. Monitoring in January 2014 showed that 75% of the trained / reached farmers had adopted techniques taught by the program and reported improved crop performance on their farms during the short rain cultivation period.² In September 2014, the Otuke Action Research Paper showed that the trained farmers benefitted from agricultural and economic advantages when using water smart agriculture technologies.³ The new agricultural and water smart methods not only helped increase their agricultural output. The average tomato yield in terms of fruits borne per plant was higher for tomatoes under improved practices: with a yield of 20-30 fruits per plant as reported by 35.2% of farmers and 15-20 fruits per plant as reported by 52.9% of farmers. These yield improvements also increased farmer profits. In addition, all respondents (100%) in this research found that water-harvesting technology was user friendly and 88.2% agreed that water harvesting is affordable to all farmers in Otuke district.
- The **Agri Skills 4 You (AS4Y)** project was funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs through ICCO (\$2.8 million). It ran between April 2012 and October 2013 and focused on increasing income and improving food security for rural households. Specific objectives included providing relevant demand-driven sustainable agro and agribusiness skills for youth and strengthening networking and information sharing at regional level between agro Business Technical Vocational Education and Training (BTVET) actors to coordinate and develop consistent and innovative approaches to the provision of skills. The project was implemented in 10 sub-counties: 5 sub-counties in Oyam District and 5 sub-counties in Alebtong District. The initiative reached 3500 direct and 10,500 indirect participants, of whom 6,300 of whom were women and girls.⁴ One of the specific result included training 267 students (43% female) on relevant skills and knowledge on sustainable and conservation agriculture practices and "fair" agribusiness, resulting in a 100% pass rate in the exams of the Directorate of Industrial Trainings. The training curricula developed for this initiative continue to be used by the targeted BTVETs and beyond. Following training, students set up their selected agribusiness enterprises with the help of start-up kits provided in accordance with their business plans. Most of the youth at the end of the project were engaged in at least 2 agro-business related-enterprises, for example piggery, horticulture and crop production, all with a climate and resilience lens.⁵
- The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs funded **Partners for Resilience (PfR)** project built climate change adaptation capacity at the local level and used that evidence to contribute to the design of the first National Climate Change Policy (in 2014). Together with Provincial Disaster Management Committees (PDMCs), CARE conducted hazard mapping and identified disaster-prone areas where, through PFR, flood resistant huts were constructed and community wetland management plans were developed. CARE further encouraged other rural communities and district local governments to map potential hazards and develop climate change indicators for reducing vulnerability. The second phase of PFR (started in January 2016) expects to mainstream an Integrated Risk Management (IRM) approach to development policies and national disaster preparedness.
- The **Lango Business Development Services (LBDS)** funded by WellSpring (USD 502,432.00) was a two-year project implemented in the Lango sub-region (January 2009 - December 2010). The project was implemented in two sub counties of Aromo (2838 beneficiaries – of whom 59.3% or 1682 were women) and Aloï (3120 beneficiaries – of whom 60.4% or 1885 were women), and intended to increase food production and household income through the promotion of sustainable and climate smart agri-business practices. A total of 5976 farmers were trained on improved and sustainable agricultural production and post-harvest handling methods. According to the LBDS End of Project Evaluation: 96% of the 169 project beneficiaries sampled reported an increased household income and savings.⁶ For example, on soya beans the average income increased from Ushs 160,000 to Ushs. 400,000 per acre per harvest season. 90% reported technology adoption aimed at reaching high rates of production. In Aromo and Aloï, farmers procured 1036 kg of soya beans and 2634 kg of improved high yielding sesame seeds by the second season of 2010 and 84% reported increased agricultural productivity. Productivity of soya beans increased from an average of 2 bags to more than 5 bags per acre per season.



Story of change: Teshamu Beri develops a well to cultivate vegetables and fruits

² Global Water Initiative for East Africa (GWI-EA) Phase 2 Interim Report

³ The Otuke Action Research Paper

⁴ Project Information Impact Reporting System (PIIRS) 2015 is an internal data collection system for CARE.

⁵ All data from AS4Y Draft Report 2014

⁶ Lango Business Development Services (LBDS) End of Project Evaluation

- CARE has been using various extension and mobilization methods to train farmers on climate smart agriculture. VSLAs have often been the main platform as farmers also need access to financial services and VSLAs are a very strategic platform to build resilience and support household livelihood diversification strategies. CARE Uganda has also used Farmer Field Schools (FFSs). To date, CARE has created or supported at least 1,351 FFSs and Production Groups as well as 33 Junior FFSs through different projects, for instance AS4Y (Acholi, Lango and West Nile regions), Securing Batwa Health, Education, Agriculture and Land Rights (HEAL, in Southwest and Western Uganda)⁷, Social-economic Transformation of Communities in Acholi (ROCO-KWO, Northern Region)⁸, PfR (Northern Region), Financial Literacy and Linkage Program in Northern Uganda (FLIP, Northern and Easter Regions)⁹, Lango Business Development Services (LBDS, Northern Region)¹⁰, and SCORE (Southwest and East Central regions, project highlighted below). Beneficiaries were trained in improved agricultural practices, climate and water smart approaches, and financial management including agricultural financing. Through the FFSs, Production Groups and the Champion Farmer approach, more than 27,400 participants have been reached, of whom at least 15,700 were women. FFSs have proven a very effective strategy in improving the farmers' lives, particularly their food and nutrition security. As such, there is evidence on an increased number of households taking in a balanced diet and a significant decrease in malnutrition cases. Other results include not only increased agricultural productivity and production, but also a subsequent increase in profits and thus in household income and savings. CARE's Farmer Field Schools also support farmers in their transition from subsistence to commercial farming, particularly through establishing linkages to agricultural services providers. While CARE's direct reach through FFSs is limited to the participants in the different groups, one can observe many other farmers being influenced by the trained farmers and adopting water smart and improved agricultural techniques to increase their productivity. This spill over effect also contributes to the environmental sustainability of CARE's interventions, as a growing number of farmers use environment-friendly agricultural practices.
- Through CARE's membership in the "African Climate Change Resilience Alliance (ACCRA) consortium (composed of World Vision, Save the Children, Oxfam and CARE) funded by DFID (1,880,006, - GBP), CARE has contributed to documenting good and promising community based adaptation practices for small holder farmers, with a focus on women. This information has been used to influence government policy and strategy (mainly through the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment led Climate Smart Agriculture Technical working group). For example, various engagements with Parliamentarians on the effects of the climate change and the need to invest in Community Based Adaptation took place. ACCRA also contributed to the development of climate change indicators for the government of Uganda. Program.
- CARE is also a member of the NEPAD Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture in Africa (ACSAA). The "NEPAD-INGO Alliance for Scaling-Up Climate-Smart Agriculture in Africa," or "Alliance for CSA in Africa," has been established to support the rapid scaling-up of Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) across Africa. The Alliance aims to support the uptake of CSA practices and approaches by at least 6 million farm households by 2021, contributing to the overall African Union vision of supporting 25 million farm households by 2025. In Uganda, CARE is playing a key role in leading the Alliance, jointly with Oxfam. A recent accomplishment includes a review of the government "Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy" and the formulation of an INGO-ACSAA position paper on this strategy to support the Ministry of Agriculture to revise the document.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

CARE has implemented **many projects with climate smart agriculture and / or resilience components in the last several years as can be seen in the above sections. These projects also deliberately intended to improve household food and nutrition security. The above results already show positive impacts on food availability and utilization. CARE Uganda is applying a deliberate nutrition sensitive approach to all its program initiatives** by paying attention to promoting crops with high nutritional value, livestock that are controlled by women and are rich in proteins (chickens both for meat and eggs) and a mixed intercropping system that will improve household dietary diversity as well as reduce the number of months of household hunger. Kitchen gardens and more generally the promotion of vegetables have been central in most of these interventions. Through our Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) model, which forms the foundation of almost all of our livelihoods programming and is core to our financial inclusion work, key information on nutrition is also being passed to members. As women become more economically empowered through VSLAs and other leadership training and support and as men increasingly show power sharing and more caring attitudes vis-à-vis women, food utilization and nutrition also improves.

⁷ HEAL (2011-2014) was funded by CARE Norway (USD 325,818.00)

⁸ ROCO-KWO (2009-2013) was funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NOK 26,809,151)

⁹ FLIP (2012-2013) was funded by the European Union through the Northern Uganda Agriculture Recovery Program (UGX 680,000,000)

¹⁰ LBDS (2009-2012) was funded by WellSpring (USD 502,341)

The USAID SCORE (via AVSI who was the prime) project was implemented between 2011 to April 2016 with a budget of \$ 8,198,880, - and reached over 28,000 participants, half of them being women and girls, and 144,000 indirect participants with estimated 74,000 women and girls. SCORE is a very good example of the impact of CARE's integrated approach to household food and nutrition security. SCORE led to significant impacts on food and nutrition security of targeted OVC households. The "Triple win" Food and Nutrition Security approach used by CARE Uganda in SCORE promoted Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) with a focus on nutrition (promotion of highly nutritious

The **Sustainable Responses for Improving the Lives of Vulnerable Children (SCORE)** project funded by USAID (8,198,880 USD) with the Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI) Foundation (prime) resulted in a very high success rate in the reduction of cases of malnutrition. Out of the 1852 screened children at the beginning of the project, 392 moderate malnutrition cases were identified and referred to nutrition facilities, which could claim a 100% success rate. In addition, the use of VSLA groups led to an average household income increase from UGX 35,571 in year one to UGX 112,508 at the end of the project.

crops, legumes and mixed intercropping systems that can reduce the lean period) while increasing agricultural productivity in a sustainable manner (taking soil health into account). CARE's concept of productivity includes both quantitative and qualitative dimensions, requiring attention to both closing the "yield gap" and ensuring women access to a diverse and nutritious food basket. This model was supported through partnerships with well-established and durable agro-business institutions, such as agro-inputs dealers, extension service providers, research institutions and markets. With increased access to financial services on equitable terms to promote smallholder profitability (through CARE's traditional Village Savings & Loans model and bank linkages), targeted households were able to invest and increase their productivity. The "Triple Win" model combined with our financial inclusion and market linkages approach led to an average household income increase from UGX 35,571 in year one to UGX 112,508 at the end of the project. At project end, 100% of the households had access to at least one critical service (health, education, social protection) and the cases of malnutrition reduced significantly: out of 1852 screened children, 392 moderate malnutrition cases were identified and were referred to nutrition facilities which could claim a 100% success rate at the end of the project. Out of the 2,942 VC households supported in establishing and maintaining backyard gardens, the malnutrition cases reduced from 628 cases at the start of project to 10 by the end of it. The number of households taking a balanced diet increased from 57% to 95% and the average number of meals per day increased from 1.8 to 2.4.¹¹ There is evidence that the initiative's attention to addressing the structural and enduring gender inequalities that underpin women's vulnerability to food insecurity, poor health and malnutrition contributed to these results.

WASH:

CARE International in Uganda is a registered member of Uganda Water and Sanitation NGO Network (UWASNET). We have a large team of WASH experts in the CARE International Federation who are deployed to support Country offices technically. CARE has implemented water programs in Uganda for about a decade. We have experienced and trained staff and partners in key BCC methodologies related to WASH, such as Community Led Total sanitation (CLTS), Participatory Hygiene And Sanitation Transformation (PHAST), etc. as approaches to improve on sanitation and nutrition. While we intend to improve access to safe drinking water, use of improved latrines and sanitation as objectives of their own, we also use WASH as a strategy for improved health and nutritional outcomes.

WASH as emergency response

Since December 2013, CARE developed a humanitarian response targeting South Sudanese refugees in Rhino Camp focussed on WASH, GBV and shelter and Persons with Specific Needs (separated children, unaccompanied minors, expectant and lactating mothers, single-mothers, woman-headed households, the disabled, the elderly, and the chronically sick). With financial support from UNFPA, Czech Republic funding and CARE's Emergency Response Funds, we have delivered the following support to date:

¹¹ All data from SCORE's End of Project Performance Report

- **Developed a simple hygiene kit that has been widely adopted by other agencies and distributed to women and girls aged between 15-49 years:** More specifically, over 560 girls were supported directly by CARE and were able to complete the school term without dropping out or missing classes as had formerly been the case when they were in their menstrual periods.
- **Construction of 291 Household improved latrines for people with special needs, increasing latrine ratios from 1:20 to 1:5 people.** Correspondingly this activity has also contributed to an increase in latrine coverage from 23% to 65%, which has had a positive impact on cholera reduction in Rhino camp;
- **Establishing community structures to promote hygiene and sustain hygiene promotion initiatives:** CARE has established a community structure of 164 trained Hygiene Promoters whose composition was drawn from refugees, refugee leadership (Refugee Welfare Councils) and members from host communities. These persons were trained and linked to support structures such as health units, local council administration and other extension workers to jointly provide continuous health education and undertake hygiene promotion activities such as camp health clubs, routine home visits to support individual home with basic hygiene and sanitation materials.
- **Information Education and Communication to increase awareness and good practices:** CARE has developed its capacity to use and adapt multiple (Electronic, Print and community initiatives like music dance and Drama) communication channels in Hygiene promotion. In Rhino Camp CARE introduced use of rural radio debates using local radio stations to disseminate hygiene and sanitation campaigns which were administered to 19,670 refugee and 48,890 members of host communities. CARE also worked with refugees and host community members to develop posters and billboards to promote hygiene and sanitation awareness with community drama groups organized and supervised by hygiene promoters being formed and supported to supplement messages from the radio and poster actions.
- **Access to safe drinking water Provision:** CARE procured and provided a 10,000 liter tank at the start of the emergency response in Rhino camp refugee settlement in 2014. This has served the water access needs of 800 to 1,200 refugees at any given time and host community members. Complementary to this activity, a total of 30 water user committee members were established and trained on hygiene and sanitation practices. The committees are comprised of refugees and host community members, men and women from each group, which both ensures improved maintenance of water-provision infrastructure and more harmonious relations between host and refugee members contributing in a meaningful way to peace building efforts in the refugee camps.



A newly constructed VIP pit latrine block at Te Gweng primary school.

WASH in long term programs

Partnership with Emory University:

CARE is currently working in partnership with Emory University, Makerere University, College of Public Health and General Electric Foundation on implementing a project on safe water solutions for health facilities in 6 hospitals in Western Uganda on a pilot basis. The project started in April 2016 and will run up to March 2017, the total amount of the grant being \$142,779.00 funded by Global Electric Foundation. The overall objective of the project is to improve water quality supplies in 6 health facilities in Western Uganda through installation of water purification systems and training of local operators to facilitate long-term & appropriate maintenance. To date, water purification systems have been installed in 6 health facilities and the performance of water purification systems is being monitored on a monthly basis. Additionally, water quality testing is also being monitored on a monthly basis to ascertain the performance of the system in reducing the bacteriological load (E.coli) and turbidity of the water supplied in Health Care Facilities.¹² The project is also developing a dash board of wash related indicators for health facilities that has already been presented to the Ministry of Health in partnership with UNICEF and is in the process of being rolled out in several districts of the country.

¹² Safe Water for Maternal Health Quarterly Report (April-June 2016)

RUNNING DRY PROJECTS (Under the Global Water Initiative):

From 2007 to 2012, CARE Uganda in partnership with Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Action Against Hunger (ACF) and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) implemented a series of different projects under the name “Running Dry”, funded mainly by the Howard G Buffet Foundation (USD 931,889.00) but also Jonathan Seagle and other individual donors. The project promoted Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) to provide reliable access to safe water to vulnerable populations in different districts.

The first phase funded by the Howard G Buffet Foundation ran from 2007 to 2008, as a quick start phase. Among others, achievements included improved access to safe water to former Internally Displaced People (IDP) in their new resettlement sites in Olilim and Orum Sub-Counties through promotion of sustainable water management practices. The second phase, still funded by Howard G. Buffet (between 2009 and 2011) and the third phase, funded by Jonathan Seagle (June 2012 – July 2013) continued focusing on the establishment of Sub-County water and sanitation management committees, the construction of necessary sanitary facilities and the drilling of boreholes.

Involving women and ensuring they played a leadership role was core to the initiative. Women were trained and supported in maintaining and managing the water points as active members of water and sanitation committees. As a result of their leadership and the good functioning of the water schemes, time spent by women and children on fetching water had to a large extent reduced. By project end, 70% of the respondents spend less than 40 minutes on fetching water and 25% spend an hour. This enabled women to spend more time tending family gardens, which contributed to enhanced food and nutrition security. The hygiene and sanitation activities in schools led to 55% of the targeted school pupils practicing positive hygiene themselves (hand washing at critical moments, etc.) at school and at home, and positively influencing family members to also adopt the practices. Community Health Clubs were created and the information they disseminated led to a massive knowledge increase on hygiene and sanitation (90% of respondents in final evaluation demonstrated increased knowledge).¹³

Under the objective of sustainable and multiple water use, the project helped increase water coverage in the target area from 5% to 67% between 2007 and 2012. CARE Uganda promoted sanitation (eradication of open air defecation) and hygiene (hand washing at critical moments, hygiene in relation to food preparation, etc.) through 6,111 Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST) and Children’s Hygiene and Sanitation Training (CHAST) sessions and 695 Community led total Sanitation (CLTS) sessions in 40 villages for 8,184 individuals. The sustainability of the project was insured by both government and civil society partners’ staff intensive training and capacity building in key WASH Behavioral Change Communication methodologies (PHAST, CHAST and CLTS), as well as a heavy focus on WASH management committees. More importantly however, the initiative successfully piloted water user fees payment schemes linked to VSLAs that were used by water users to save for their water fees.

The results of one of our model projects, the **Running Dry Project** under the Global Water Initiative (primarily funded by the Howard G. Buffet Foundation, 931,889 USD), exemplify our approaches and reach: the water coverage in the target area increased from 5% to 67% between 2007 and 2012 and the sanitation system coverage and hygiene behavior improved substantially with the initiative reaching 46,317 institutional beneficiaries and 20,334 household latrine beneficiaries. In order to reach sustainable change, CARE focused on creating VSLA groups that are used to establish effective water user fee mechanisms.

¹³ Final GWI-EA Evaluation Report